

APPLICANT(S): FEINER, David  
SERIAL NO.: 09/982,985  
FILED: October 22, 2001  
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## **REMARKS**

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants assert that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

### **Status of Claims**

Claims 2 - 6 are pending in the application. Claims 2 and 3 has been rejected. Claims 4 - 6 have been objected to. Claims 2 - 6 have been amended. New claims 7 - 12 have been added. Claims 2 - 6 have been amended voluntarily. These amendments are editorial in nature and are not made for reasons of patentability. Applicants respectfully assert that the amendments and new claims do not add new matter.

### **Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicant notes that claim 4 - 6 contain allowable subject matter.

### **Remarks to the Specification**

The amendments to the Specification are editorial in nature. In particular, the reference numeral "20" of Figure 1, which was not described in the specification has been added to the description of Fig. 1. No new matter has been added.

### **Drawings Objections**

The drawings were objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p) (5) because they include reference number "20" of Fig. 1, which is not described in the specification. Applicant has amended the specification to include reference numeral "20".

The drawings were objected to because reference number "16" of Fig. 1 is not pointing to the right element. Applicant has amended Fig. 1. Approval is requested.

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## **CLAIM OBJECTIONS**

In the Office Action, the Examiner has objected to Claims 2, 3 and 6 because the flexible cable carrier is allegedly not coupled to the print head. Applicant respectfully asserts that the meaning of the word "coupled" is not necessarily "directly connected" and according to Merriam-Webster dictionary, one of the meanings of "coupled" is - "to join for combined effect". Therefore, based on the dictionary, the flexible cable carrier is coupled to the print head. However, in order to further the allowance of the application, claims 2, 3 and 6 have been amended such that this limitation has been removed. Therefore, the objections to claims 2, 3 and 6 should be withdrawn.

## **CLAIM REJECTIONS**

### **35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections**

Claims 2 and 3 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated by Admitted Prior Art of Fig. 1. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections in view of the remarks that follow.

Claims 2 and 3 have been voluntarily amended to more clearly point out the invention being claimed. The amendments to claims 2 and 3 are not being made for the purpose of patentability.

For a reference to anticipate a claim, the reference must teach all elements of the claim. Applicant asserts that Admitted Prior Art of Fig. 1 does not teach all elements of claims 2 and 3. In the Office Action, the Examiner contends that component 20 of Fig. 1 is attachable to the movable component 16. This is not true, as movable component 16 is rigidly coupled to the flexible cable carrier at one end, and to the print head 12 at the other end. Print head 12 moves along linear bearing 20, which is not attachable to movable component 16.

Therefore, the Admitted Prior Art of Fig. 1 does not teach the limitation "an isolating component attached to said movable component", as recited in claim 2 an isolating component having "a linear bearing track attached to a cable carrier support and a generally U-shaped channel attached to said movable component", as recited in claim 3. Therefore, the

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Admitted Prior Art of Fig. 1 cannot anticipate claims 2 and 3. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection of claims 2 and 3 should be withdrawn.

### New Claims

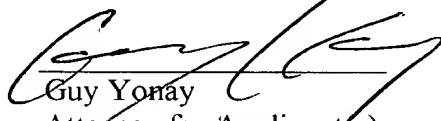
New claims 7 - 12 have been added in order to point out more particularly what the inventor considered as his invention. No new matter has been added.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the pending claims 2 - 12 are deemed to be allowable. Their favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Please charge any fees associated with this paper to deposit account No. 05-0649.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attorney for Applicant(s)  
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Dated: March 23, 2003

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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**In the Specification:**

The paragraph beginning at page 1, line 19 has been amended as follows:

Reference is now made to Fig. 1, which illustrates the print head 12 and cable carrier 14 of a printing system. The cable carrier 14 is rigidly attached to the print head 12 by a plate 16 configured to allow the ink supply tubing and data and electronic cables to pass through to the cable carrier 14. The cable carrier 14 is generally flexible and travels along a support structure 18. The print head 12 is configured to travel on [a] linear [bearing] bearings 20 by a linear motor (not shown) along the "Y"-axis. As the print head 12 moves along the "Y"-axis, the cable carrier 14 rotates as indicated by arrow 22.

The paragraph beginning at page 5, line 18 has been amended as follows:

In practice, as the print head 58 moves along the "Y"-axis, pin 70 is moved along with it. [The linear bearing component 52] "U"-channel 74, which is attached to plate 64 also moves along the "Y"-axis on the linear bearing [52] track 76. The cable carrier 56 is rotated and also effectively moves along the cable carrier support 60 in parallel with the print head 58.

The paragraph beginning at page 5, line 22 has been amended as follows:

The two components of the print head protecting apparatus 50 (linear bearing component 52 and pin connection component 54) provide protection at two levels. Any vibration or sudden movement of the cable carrier 56 is transferred to the plate 64. At a first level, the linear bearing track 76 of the linear bearing component 52 absorbs at least part of the energy being transferred. Secondly, if there is any continuing vibration, which travels down to

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pin 70, the receiver 72 allows the pin 70 to vibrate within certain limits without directly affecting the print head itself. In a further embodiment, a rubber or silicone protector may be inserted within receiver 72 to provide yet further absorption of any sundry vibration.

Claims 2 - 6 have been amended as follows:

New claims 7 - 12 have been added.

2. (Twice Amended) An apparatus comprising:

[at least one] a print head;

a movable component having a plate attached at a first end[attachable] to a flexible cable carrier, said [flexible cable carrier] movable component being coupled to said [at least one] print head[,]; and

an isolating component [attachable] attached to said movable component, [for isolating] to isolate uncontrolled movement and vibration of said flexible cable carrier from said [at least one] print head[ ,

wherein said movable component comprises a plate attached at one end to said flexible cable carrier].

3. (Twice Amended) An apparatus comprising:

[at least one] a print head;

a movable component [attachable] attached to a flexible cable carrier, said [flexible cable carrier] movable component being coupled to said [at least one] print head[,]; and

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an isolating component [attachable to said movable component, for isolating] to isolate uncontrolled movement and vibration of said flexible cable carrier from said at least one print head, wherein said isolating component comprises a linear bearing track attached to a cable carrier support and a generally U-shaped channel attached to said movable component.

4. The apparatus according to claim [3] 2, wherein said movable component further comprises a pin attached to a second end of said movable component, said second end being distal from said first end, and wherein [said isolating component further comprises] a receiver is attached to said print head, said receiver being configured to receive said pin and allow said pin freedom of movement in at least one direction.
5. The apparatus according to claim [3] 2, wherein said movable component further comprises a receiver attached to a second end of said movable component, said second end being distal from said first end, and wherein [said isolating component further comprises] a pin is attached to said print head, said receiver being configured to receive said pin and allow said pin freedom of movement in at least one direction.
6. A method for isolating uncontrolled movement and vibration of a print head from a flexible cable carrier, [said print head being coupled to said flexible cable carrier,] said method comprising:

attaching a first [one] end of a movable component to said flexible cable carrier;

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- attaching an isolating component to said movable component;
- attaching a pin to a second end of said movable component, said second end being distal from said first end; and
- attaching a receiver to said print head, said receiver being configured to receive said pin and allow said pin freedom of movement in one direction.
7. (New) The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said receiver comprises a rubber protector.
  8. (New) The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said receiver comprises a silicone protector.
  9. (New) The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said receiver comprises a rubber protector.
  10. (New) The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said receiver comprises a silicone protector.
  11. (New) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said isolating component is further attached to a cable carrier support that enable said flexible cable carrier to travel along said cable carrier support generally in parallel to movements of said print head.
  12. (New) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said isolating component is further attached to said print head.

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**OCT 25 2003  
MAR 25 2003

Applicant(s): FEINER, David      Examiner: NGHIEM, M.  
 Serial No.: 09/982,985      Group Art Unit: 2863  
 Filed: October 22, 2001  
 Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROTECTING PRINTING HEADS

ATTENTION: Official Draftsman  
 Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

**CORRECTED DRAWINGS**

Sir:

A corrected version of Fig. 1 is enclosed herein.

Approval is requested.

If there are any questions regarding these drawings, please call the undersigned.

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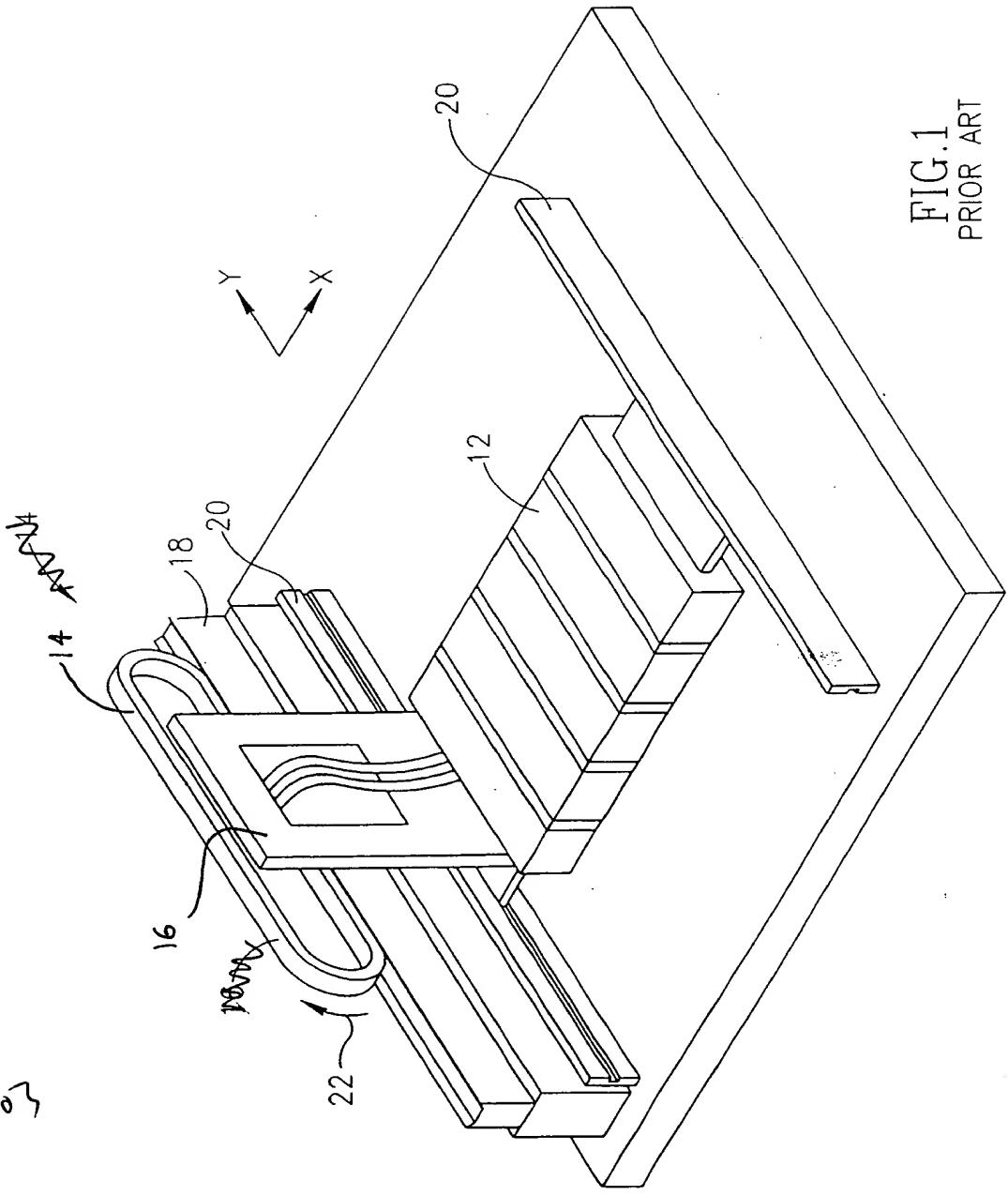
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Approved  
AM 3/31/03